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AN EFFICIENT TRAP FOR THE FOX RANCH

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An efficient trap for capturing escaped foxes without injuring the animals is comparatively easy to construct. Recently several such traps were built from scrap material at the United States Fur Animal Experiment Station, Saratoga Springs, N. Y. The little labor required in constructing them has been more than justified in the past 3 years by the saving of time usually spent in chasing escaped foxes.

The construction and operation of the trap are illustrated in figures 1, 2, and 3. After entering the trap, the fox steps to the rear of the tilting platform (fig. 1, B), raising the front. This action forces a wire on the side upward (fig. 2, D and E), thereby releasing the trigger (fig. 2, E) and permitting the front end to drop. By an ingenious arrangement, a piece of strap iron across the lower face of the door fastens it securely (fig. 2, E) and prevents the captured fox from opening it. Immediately after removing the fox, the operator should reset the trap.

Ordinarily it is advisable to place traps in corners of the guard fence. There should be a guide fence leading to the trap entrance. This can be constructed from one end of a pen to the trap, as indicated in figure 1, D.

For construction purposes, the trap may be considered as composed of five parts--(1) the frame, the details of which are shown in figures 1, A, and 2, A and B; (2) the tilting platform, shown in figure 1, B and C; (3) the door, in figure 2, C and E; and (4) the release and (5) the locking mechanisms, in figure 2, D and E.

Detailed parts of the release mechanism are illustrated in figure 3: at the side of the trap are parts F (to be attached to the tilting platform) and E; on the top, parts A, B, D, G, H, and I; and on the door, part C. Details of the locking mechanism are also shown in figure 3: on the front of the trap frame is part J; on the door are parts K, L, and M.

EXPLANATION OF ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURE 1.--A, Construction of frame; B and C, details of tilting platform; D, suggested location of trap against guard fence showing guide fence.

FIGURE 2.--A, Completed frame and removable top (B); C, construction details of door; D, side view of front of trap, showing release and locking mechanisms; E, front view of trap. (The small letters in D and E refer to details of these parts, correspondingly lettered in fig. 3.)

FIGURE 3.--A-I, Details of parts of the release mechanism; J-M, details of parts of the locking mechanism. (These parts are correspondingly lettered in fig. 2, D and E.)

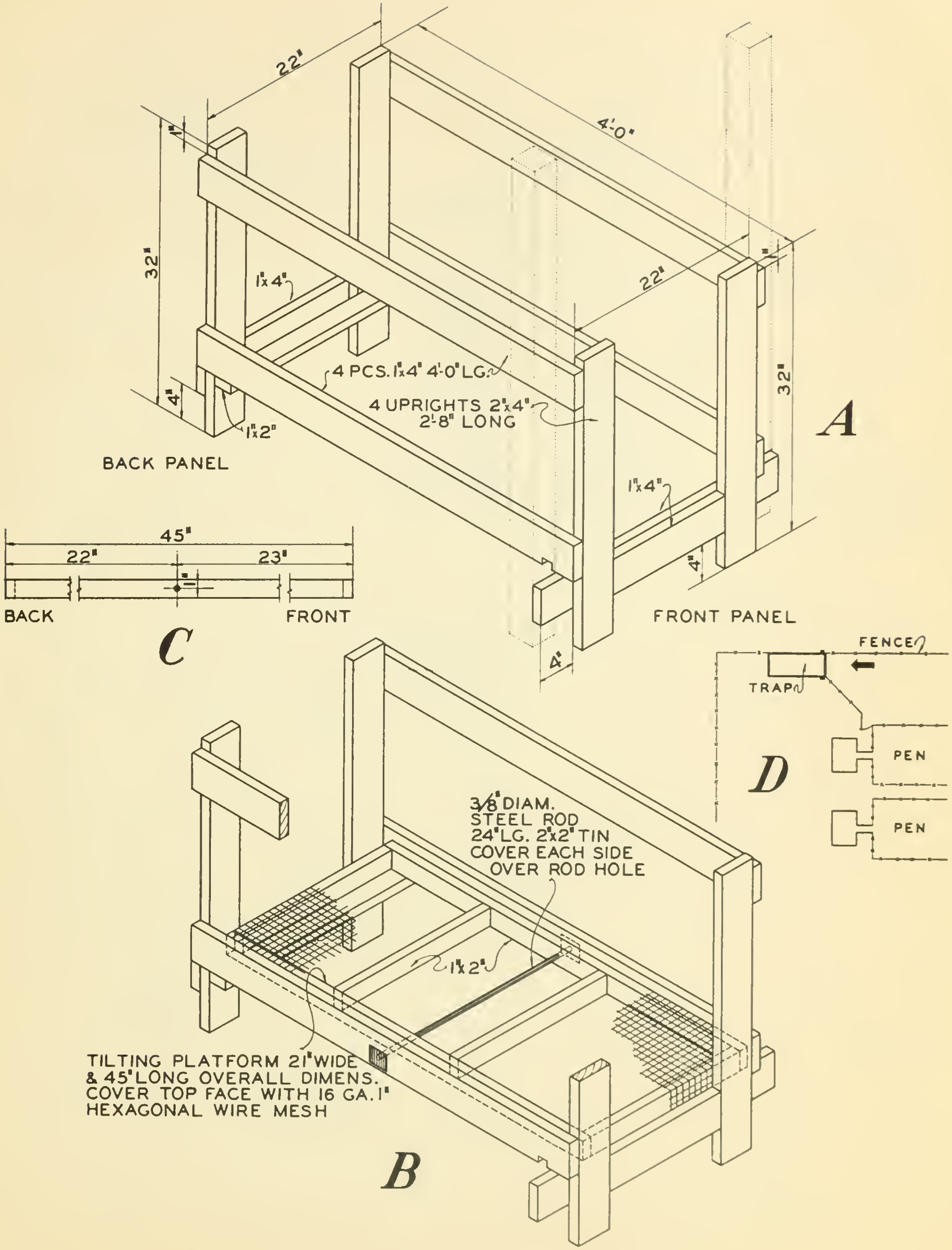
22"
4'-0"
1"
32"
1"x4"
4 PCS. 1"x4" 4'-0" LG.
4 UPRIGHTS 2"x4"
2'-8" LONG
4"
1"x2"
BACK PANEL
22"
1"
32"
A
1"x4"
4"
4"
FRONT PANEL
45"
22"
23"
BACK
FRONT
C
FENCE
TRAP
PEN
PEN
D
3/8" DIAM.
STEEL ROD
24"LG. 2"x2" TIN
COVER EACH SIDE
OVER ROD HOLE
1"x2"
TILTING PLATFORM 21" WIDE
& 45" LONG OVERALL DIMENS.
COVER TOP FACE WITH 16 GA. 1"
HEXAGONAL WIRE MESH
B

FIGURE 1

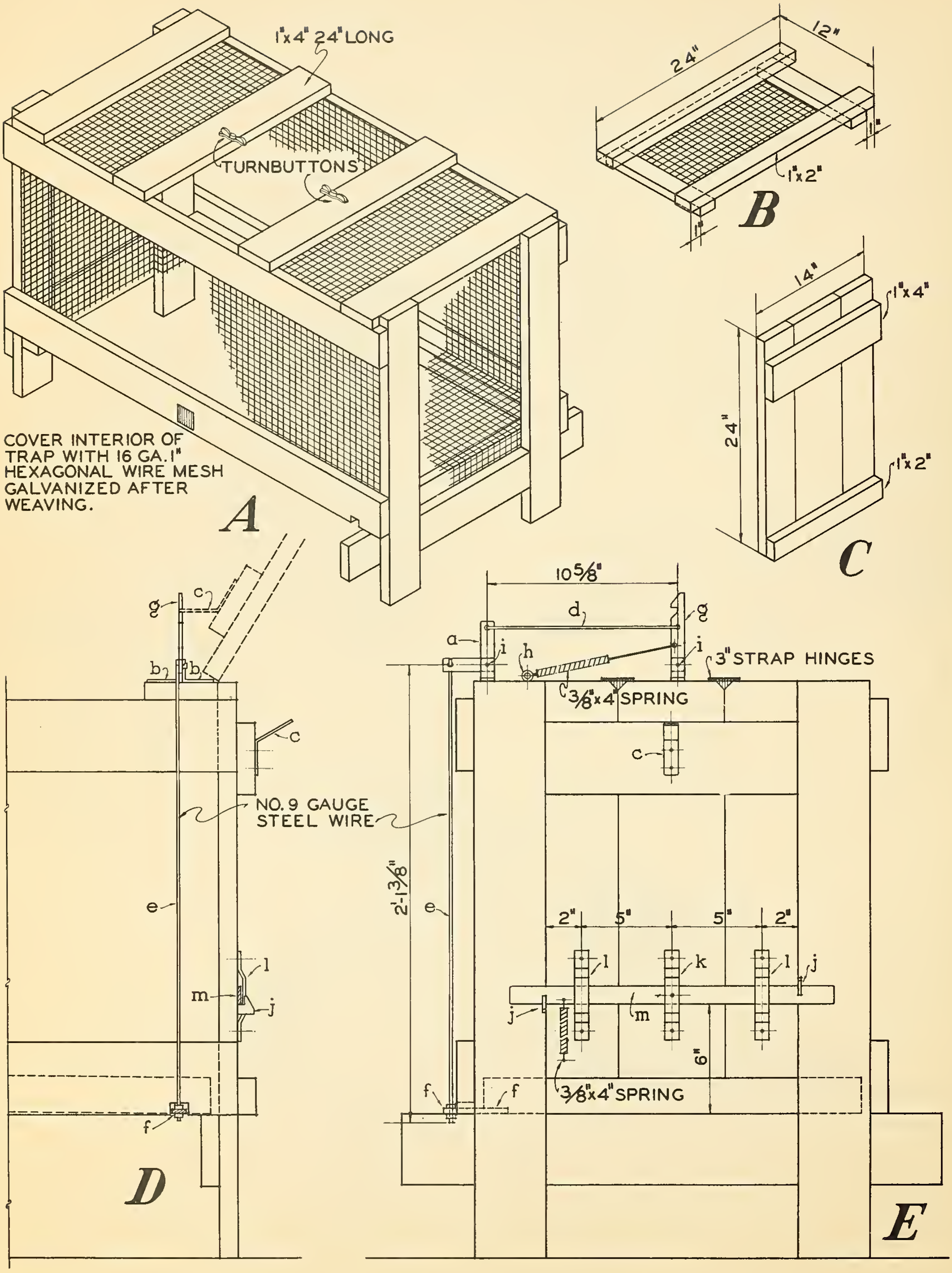
COVER INTERIOR OF TRAP WITH 16 GA. 1" HEXAGONAL WIRE MESH GALVANIZED AFTER WEAVING.

FIGURE 2

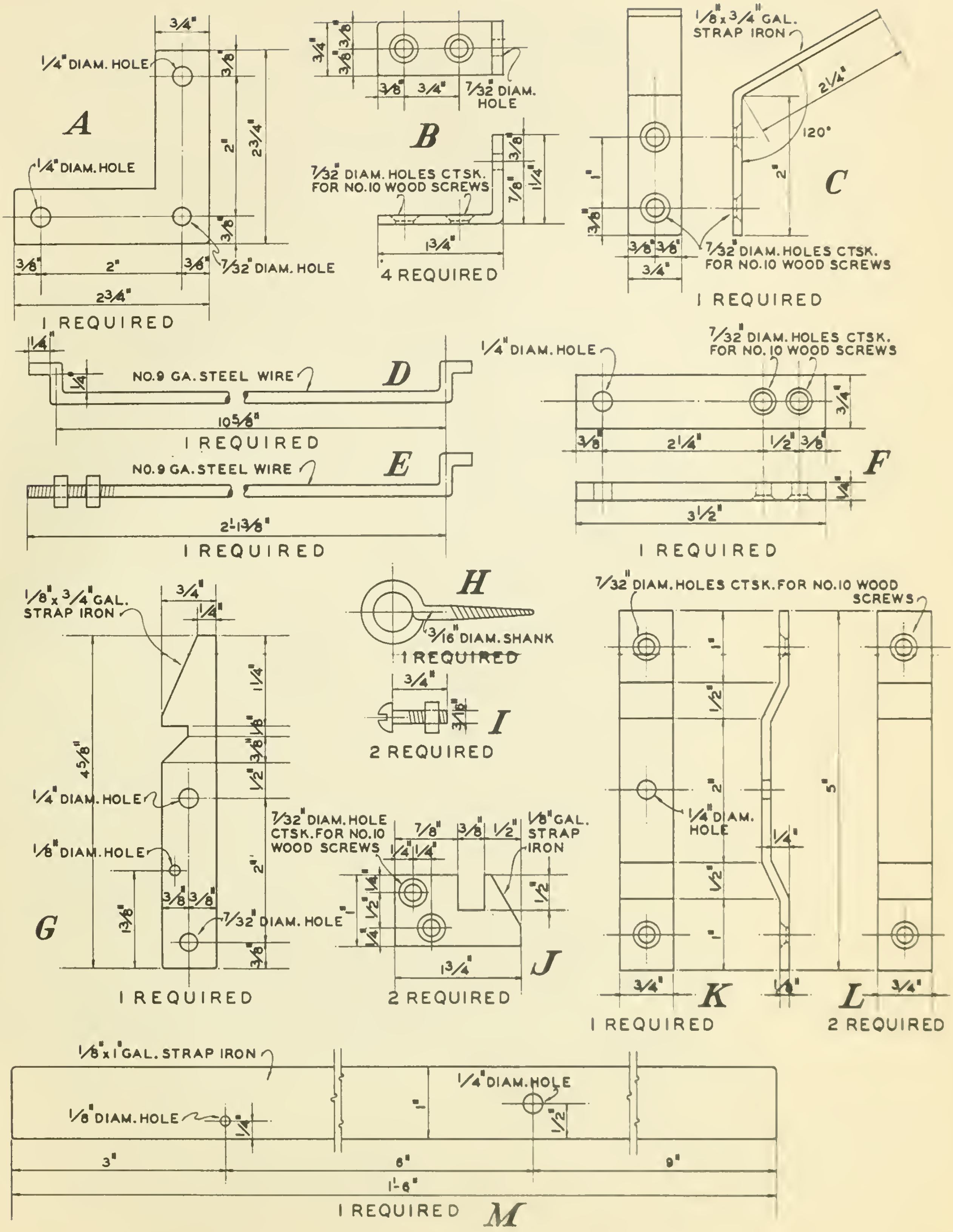
A
3/4"
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
3/8"
2"
2 3/4"
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
3/8"
3/8" 2" 3/8"
7/32" DIAM. HOLE
2 3/4"
1 REQUIRED
B
3/4"
3/8
3/8
3/8" 3/4" 7/32" DIAM. HOLE
7/32" DIAM. HOLES CTSK. FOR NO.10 WOOD SCREWS
3/8"
7/8"
1 1/4"
1 3/4"
4 REQUIRED
C
1/8" x 3/4" GAL. STRAP IRON
2 1/4"
120°
1"
2"
3/8"
3/8" 3/8"
3/4"
7/32" DIAM. HOLES CTSK. FOR NO.10 WOOD SCREWS
1 REQUIRED
D
1/4"
1/4
NO.9 GA. STEEL WIRE
10 5/8"
1 REQUIRED
E
NO.9 GA. STEEL WIRE
2'-1 3/8"
1 REQUIRED
F
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
7/32" DIAM. HOLES CTSK. FOR NO. 10 WOOD SCREWS
3/4"
3/8" 2 1/4" 1/2" 3/8"
1/4"
3 1/2"
1 REQUIRED
G
1/8" x 3/4" GAL. STRAP IRON
3/4"
1/4"
1 1/4
1/8
3/8
1/2
4 5/8"
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
1/8" DIAM. HOLE
2"
3/8" 3/8"
1 3/8
7/32" DIAM. HOLE
3/8
1 REQUIRED
H
3/16" DIAM. SHANK
1 REQUIRED
I
3/4"
3/16"
2 REQUIRED
J
7/32" DIAM. HOLE CTSK. FOR NO.10 WOOD SCREWS
7/8" 3/8" 1/2"
1/4" 1/4"
1/8" GAL. STRAP IRON
1/4
1/2
1/4
1/2
1 3/4"
2 REQUIRED
K
L
7/32" DIAM. HOLES CTSK. FOR NO.10 WOOD SCREWS
1"
1/2"
2"
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
5"
1/4"
1/2"
1"
3/4"
1/4"
3/4"
1 REQUIRED
2 REQUIRED
M
1/8" x 1" GAL. STRAP IRON
1/4" DIAM. HOLE
1"
1/8" DIAM. HOLE
1/4"
1/2
3"
6"
9"
1'-6"
1 REQUIRED

FIGURE 3